



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

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A trend we can all live with - 2006 traffic fatalities down

Through the first half of the year, Wisconsin traffic fatalities are down significantly compared to the first six months of 2005. A total of 323 people lost their lives on Wisconsin roadways through June 30th of this year. As tragic as that is, it's 26 fewer fatalities than last year and 27 below the five-year average. Traffic safety officials say stepped-up law enforcement efforts such as the "Click it or Ticket" campaign are having the intended effect of getting motorists to slow down, buckle-up and drive sober. Preliminary reports indicate traffic crashes claimed 11 lives over the four-day July 4th holiday compared to 16 fatalities over last year's three-day holiday period. More information can be found at:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/2006/opa-116.htm>

State Patrol honors members for exemplary service

Several members of the Wisconsin State Patrol received special honors at a recent State Capitol awards ceremony in recognition of exceptional service and courage:

- Sgt. Tanya Connors of New Lisbon and Trooper Craig Morehouse of Johnson Creek both received Meritorious Service Awards for their actions to remove motorists from burning vehicles in the summer of 2005.
- Troopers Steven Lindemann of Oconomowoc and Lucille McCue of Racine along with Inspector Mark Barlar of Racine received Lifesaving Awards for administering first aid that helped save the lives of traffic crash victims in September of 2005.
- Trooper Kristian Perales of West Bend received a Lifesaving Award for performing CPR and helping save the life of a heart attack victim in June of 2005.
- Trooper Gustavo Gomez of Kenosha, Diane King of McFarland, Sgt. Steven Krueger of Tigerton, Police Communications Operator Debra Odekirk of Watertown and Communications Supervisor Linda Palmer of Madison all received Commendable Service Awards for their support of State Patrol communications systems and investigations.

The check is in the mail

Quarterly General Transportation Aids (GTA) totaling over \$95.2 million are being distributed to over 1,900 Wisconsin municipalities this month. The GTA dollars help local governments defray costs associated with maintaining local roads. In addition, WisDOT is distributing nearly \$1.9 million in Lift Bridge Aids to help five communities maintain and operate lift bridges on roadways that connect to the State Highway System. The communities include: Green Bay, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Racine and Two Rivers. More information on the recent transportation aids can be found on the WisDOT Web site at: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/index.htm>.

Upcoming events

July 28 – Wisconsin Day at EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh

August 23-24 – Governor's Conference on Highway Safety, Middleton

September 5-8 – Wisconsin State Bicycle and Pedestrian Summit, Madison

Check www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/events/index.htm for more event listings and details.

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